Tales From Henry Kissinger's

Gen's Garbage by Paul Hoge 7/9/75

By Gerald Martineau—The Washington Post

Garbage lines the street except in front of the Kissinger (white) house.

Washington Post Staff Writer

Either Secretary of State Henry Kissinger or his wife, Nancy, smokes Marlboro cigarettes, uses patent medicines and occasionally throws away The New York Times unopened — these are some of the gleanings of a National Enquirer reporter who sifted through Kissinger's trash early yesterday morning.

The weekly tabloid reporter, Jay Gourley, was caught in the act and questioned for 2½ hours by Secret Service agents and metropolitan police officers yesterday in the street in front of Kissinger's Georgetown house at 3018 Dumbarton Ave. NW after Gourley grabbed five green plastic bags of Kissinger trash from the sidewalk and threw them into the trunk of his car.

"I wasn't arrested," said the 27-year-old Gourley yesterday, "because we'd checked with our lawyers before I went and it's legal to take trash from the sidewalk . . . it's considered abandoned property."

E. G. Martin, assistant editor of the Florida weekly, which claims the largest circulation of any paper in America (more than 4 million), said "we plan to publish the results within a week or so . . . there were some very interesting things in his trash."

The State Department yesterday issued a statement condemning the garbage grab as a violation of the privacy of the Secretary and Mrs. Kissinger and an action unbecoming to a journalist.

"This has caused grave anguish to Mrs. Kissinger," said State spokesman Robert Anderson. "And as for the secretary, he's really revolted by the act and considers that at least the privacy of his house should be respected . . . "I'm sure most members of the press would agree."

National Enquirer editor Martin disagreed, calling the garbage "caper" just

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Kissinger's Trash Sifted By Newsman

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"following in the giant footsteps of Jack Anderson."

Columnist Anderson sent some of his staff to FBI chief J. Edgar Hoover's house in 1971 to go through his trash and subject. Hoover "to some of the same investigative practices he has been using on so many others," Anderson said in a subsequent column.

Anderson said the contents of the trash showed the FBI chief brushed his teeth with Ultra Brite toothpaste, drank Jack Daniels whiskey and Irish Mist liquer and took Gelusil antiacid pills. The only items on FBI stationery were menus that the director regularly wrote in longhand for his housekeeper, Anderson discovered.

National Enquirer reporter Gourley said he found no official documents in Secretary Kissinger's trash, "intereesting little personal things but nothing with international implications.

Gourley said it was his idea to go through Kissinger's trash and that he'd done it once before to the former governor of Kentucky.

"When I was bureau chief for Scripps-Howard newspapers in Frankfurt, Ky., and Kentucky's Gov. Wendell Ford —now Sen. Ford (D.-Ky.)— went on a secret trip to Florida I got a document from his trash that proved he had taken the trip with a man he denied seeing. He called me the garbage can reporter," Gourley said.

Gourley said that the Secret Service agents were very polite "but called metropolitan police to see if there was any city violation they could arrest me on. There wasn't."

The Secret Service had no comment yesterday on the garbage incident.